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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of October, 1988)

According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest report, the number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters decreased during the month of October. The land crew total decreased by nine to 142 and the marine crew total remained the same for a net decrease of nine crews to a total of 172.

The October total (172) represents a decrease of 5% from last month, a 12% decrease from October, 1987, **a 9% increase over October, 1986**, a 52% decrease from October, 1985, a 65% decrease from October, 1984, a 65% decrease from October, 1983, and a decrease of 67% from the same month in 1982.

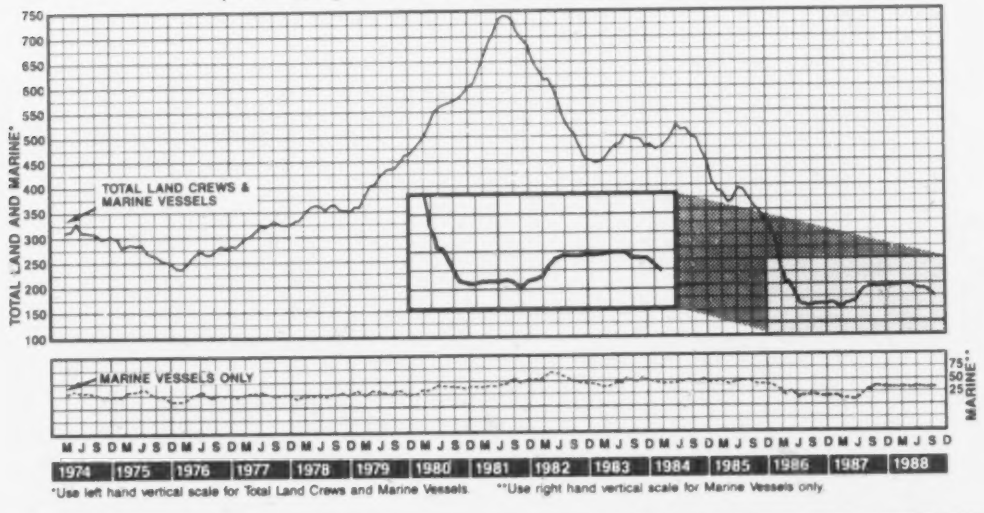
During October, three contractors were operating four of the 128 land crews and two of the twenty-seven marine vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Oct.'87	Oct.'86	Oct.'85	Oct.'84	Oct. 83	Oct.'82
	172	181	195	158	357	497	498	516

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Oct. 1987	Oct. 1986	Oct. 1985	Oct. 1984	Oct. 1983	Oct. 1982	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Oct. 1987	Oct. 1986	Oct. 1985	Oct. 1984	Oct. 1983	Oct. 1982
37 Contr's:	128	136	148	119	279	412	410	423	27	25	29	18	38	42	42	42
7 Oil Co's:	14	15	15	17	33	37	38	42	3	4	3	4	7	6	7	8
1 Gov't:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
TOTALS	142	151	163	136	312	449	448	465	30	30	32	22	45	48	50	51

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



*Use left hand vertical scale for Total Land Crews and Marine Vessels. **Use right hand vertical scale for Marine Vessels only.

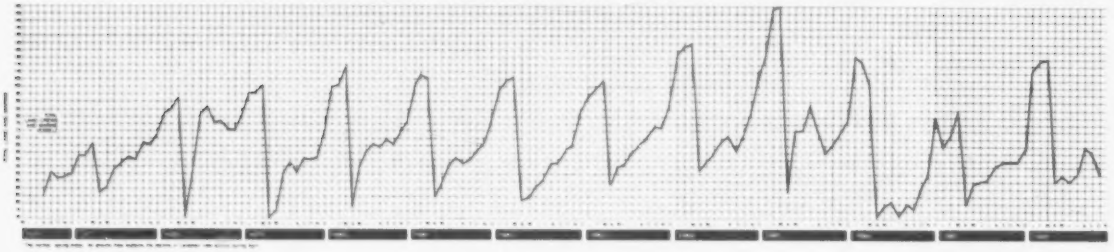
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

October, 1988 (September figures in parentheses)

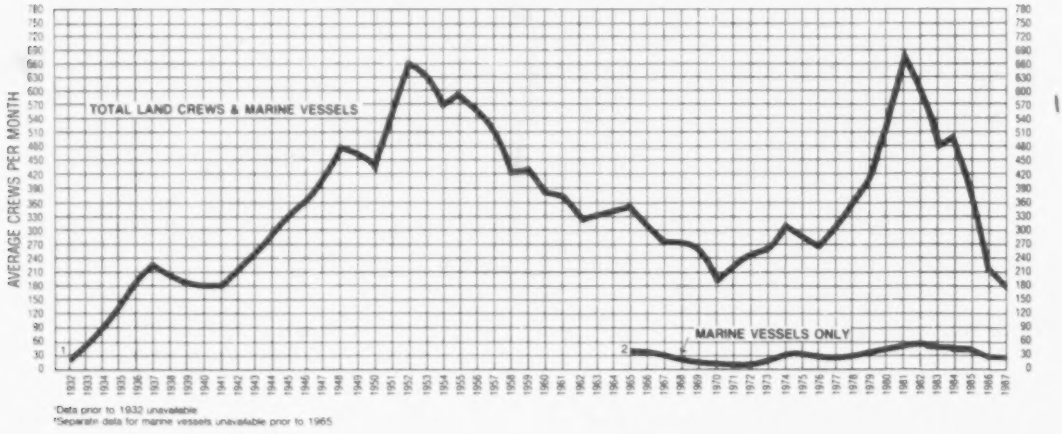
	Land Crews	Marine Crews
22 Contractors:	37 (51)	1 (3)
1 Oil Company:	2 (2)	0 (0)
Totals:	39 (53)	1 (3)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)



[1]Data prior to 1932 unavailable.
[2]Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965.